



To: RCRC Board of Directors
From: Greg Norton
President and CEO
Date: August 20, 2018
Re: RCRC Board Meeting Highlights (August 15, 2018)

President's Report

RCRC President and CEO Greg Norton announced that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors officially voted to join RCRC's membership. This request will come before the RCRC Board of Directors for consideration at the September meeting in Napa County.

Mr. Norton also provided an update on various member county visits, RCRC Board Member involvement in legislative and regulatory advocacy efforts, and a brief preview of upcoming economic development opportunities currently in the works.

Administrative Matters

RCRC Annual Meeting

RCRC Vice President of External Affairs Justin Caporusso provided an update on the upcoming RCRC Annual Meeting in Napa County. Held September 19-21, 2018 at the Napa Valley Marriott & Spa, this year's Annual Meeting will include eight panel discussions, with topics ranging from School Safety and Emergency Disaster Response Best Practices to a discussion on the 2020 Census. To date, RCRC has secured 36 sponsors totaling \$121,000 in sponsorship dollars, and 176 registrants. The full event website can be accessed [here](#).

Economic Development Update

RCRC Chief Economic Development Officer Barbara Hayes provided an introduction and overview of the formalized economic development program of work planned on behalf of RCRC's member counties. The strategic plan includes three economic development foundational areas of impact: Resource Development, Workforce Development, and Business Development; and three industry-specific areas of impact: Forest Resiliency, Broadband, and Infrastructure. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Governmental Affairs

Upcoming November 2018 Ballot Measures Update

RCRC Vice President of Governmental Affairs Paul A. Smith provided background and an updated timeline on a number of statewide measures expected for the November ballot. Mr. Smith explained that as of this date, there are likely to be four ballot

measures for the RCRC Board of Directors to consider at the September meeting in Napa County. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Proposition 10 – “Affordable Housing Act” – ACTION

RCRC Legislative Advocate Tracy Rhine provided an overview of Proposition 10, the “Affordable Housing Act.” Proposition 10 seeks to repeal the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act, and permit local governments to adopt rent control ordinances. RCRC staff presented this proposition for the RCRC Board of Directors’ consideration due to the local control component. The RCRC Board of Directors adopted a position of “No Position” on Proposition 10. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

CalPERS Hardship Policy Update

RCRC Chief Financial Officer Lisa McCargar provided an update on recent developments regarding the California Public Employees’ Retirement System’s (CalPERS) Hardship Policy. RCRC staff has been involved in discussions regarding the Hardship Policy, and has submitted a letter to CalPERS outlining the organization’s thoughts on thresholds and other criteria that could be adopted by CalPERS to determine if a member agency needs contribution relief. RCRC staff and RCRC member county staff will be participating in an invitation-only session with CalPERS senior executives and board members in October. The memo can be accessed [here](#), and RCRC’s original letter to CalPERS can be accessed [here](#).

Forest Management and Wildfire Update

RCRC Regulatory Affairs Advocate Staci Heaton provided an update on current efforts in the legislature and various state and federal agencies related to addressing California’s persistent catastrophic wildfire events.

Supervisors Jack Garamendi (Calaveras) and Bob Williams (Tehama) joined RCRC staff in advocacy efforts the week of August 13th. The following is a list of legislative offices visited:

Member	State Capitol Room	Phone Number
Assembly Member Brian Dahle's staff	#3104	916-319-2001
Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry and staff	#5144	916-319-2004
Assembly Member Chad Mayes and staff	#4098	916-319-2042
Assembly Member Eloise Gomez Reyes and staff	#2175	916-319-2047
Assembly Member Frank Bigelow and staff	#4158	916-319-2005
Assembly Member Heath Flora and staff	#3098	916-319-2012
Assembly Member James Gallagher and staff	#2158	916-319-2003
Assembly Member Jay Obernolte's staff	#4116	916-319-2033
Assembly Member Jim Wood’s staff	#6005	916-319-2002
Assembly Member Monique Limon and staff	#6031	916-319-2037
Senate pro Tempore Toni Atkins’ staff	#205	916-651-4039
Senator Cathleen Galgiani and staff	#5097	916-651-4005

Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson's staff	#2032	916-651-4019
Senator Jeff Stone and staff	#4082	916-651-4028
Senator Jim Nielsen and staff	#2068	916-651-4004
Senator John Moorlach and staff	#2048	916-651-4037
Senator Patricia Bates' staff	#305	916-651-4036
Senator William Monning and staff	#313	916-651-4017
Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom's staff	#1114	

The memo can be accessed [here](#), and Ms. Heaton's letter to the Wildfire Preparedness & Response Legislative Conference Committee can be accessed [here](#). The Tuolumne County public health emergency declaration proclamation can be accessed [here](#). The Governor's Forest Management Task Force draft proposal can be accessed [here](#).

Legislative Committee

Update on Farm Bill

RCRC Senior Legislative Advocate Mary-Ann Warmerdam provided an update on the status of the 2018 Farm Bill, and RCRC's priorities in reauthorization efforts, which primarily lie in the Rural Development title. The Rural Development title generally provides assistance for rural business creation, including funds for innovative and alternative business development. In addition to these programs, the Rural Development title includes other provisions to reauthorize and/or amend a wide variety of loan and grant programs that provide assistance in four key areas: broadband and telecommunications; rural water and wastewater infrastructure; business and community development; and regional development. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Water and Natural Resources Committee

Water Policy Issues Update

Ms. Warmerdam provided a global overview of several issues involving California water policy at the state and federal levels. Some of these issues include the two bonds with monies identified for water infrastructure, and updates on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, California WaterFix, and California Water Commission – Proposition 1 Funds. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Update on Proposition 3 – "Water Supply and Water Quality Act of 2018"

Ms. Warmerdam provided an update on Proposition 3, the "Water Supply and Water Quality Act of 2018," also known as the "Meral" bond. The RCRC Board of Directors adopted a "Support" position on Proposition 3 in January, and RCRC has been working with the proponents in identifying opportunities for RCRC, RCRC member counties, and individual Supervisors to support the measure through earned media efforts. Financial support for the measure comes from a wide variety of businesses and agricultural entities, and the measure enjoys endorsements from varied elected officials and stakeholders. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Regulatory Committee

Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority Update

RCRC Regulatory Affairs Advocate Mary Pitto provided an update on the recent activities of the Rural Counties' Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority (ESJPA). Ms. Pitto's presentation included updates on various waste related topics,

including short-lived climate pollutants regulations, standardized recycling labels, disposal reporting regulations, electronic annual reports, landfill waste discharge fees, among others. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

USFWS Endangered Species Act Reform Regulations

Ms. Heaton provided a summary of recently released regulations to modify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) application of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In July, the USFWS released a package of regulations designed to reform some of the more controversial components of the ESA. These regulations include such provisions as considerations for economic impacts when designating critical habitat, changes to the definition of "adverse modification," allowance for "programmatic consultations" across designated areas that would streamline the consultation process, among others. RCRC will be providing comments on the regulations, and recommends interested member counties review the regulatory package, and submit comments of their own. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Please refer to the Board Packet and Supplemental Packet for further details related to the items above, as well as all items covered during the August 2018 RCRC Board of Directors meeting. The August 2018 Board Packet can be accessed [here](#).